

Douglas Arizona


2018 State of the City

Mayor Robert Uribe



Embracing our Heritage

Advancing our Future




Douglas, Arizona is in the County of Cochise situated on the US / Mexican border adjacent to the Mexican city of Agua Prieta, Sonora. It is located 118 miles southeast of Tucson. Douglas has over 17,000 residents and was founded in 1901, and was later incorporated in 1905.

Douglas was first established as a smelter site for the prosperous copper mines in Bisbee, Arizona. The town is named after mining pioneer James Douglas. Two copper smelters operated at the site. The area also has a history of cattle ranching and agriculture dating back to the 1800's that continues to thrive to this day.

The region also figures prominently in the history of the old west. Cochise County was home to many famous historical figures such as Cochise, Geronimo, John Slaughter, Wyatt Earp, and Doc Holliday and their stories played out across the tapestry of the mountains and grasslands of Cochise County.

The historic landmarks in Douglas itself include the Hotel Gadsden, the Douglas/William's House, Southern Pacific Railroad Depot, and Slaughter's Ranch. If you enjoy the outdoors, the San Bernardino and Leslie Canyon National Wildlife Preserves are just minutes from town and they provide nature lovers a chance to observe over 283 species of wildlife. The Chiricahua Mountains, one of Arizona's largest mountain ranges, are also located close by.





Your Mayor and City Council

The City Council approves all ordinances, resolutions, and contracts, including but not limited to property sales, acquisitions and leases as well as major purchases of materials, equipment and services required by the City. With the advice and assistance of the City Manager, the Council reviews proposals for community needs, initiates action for new programs and determines the ability of the City to provide financing for City activities. The Council is responsible for approval of the annual operating budget.

The Council Members have distribution boxes in the City Clerk's office located in City Hall, 425 E. 10th St, Douglas, Arizona.

Douglas City Council meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month, at City Hall, 425 E. 10th Street. Meetings begin at 6:00pm.

The Mayor and all six council members are elected officials and serve 4-year terms. Beginning and ending years for terms are:

2016—2020

TERM

Mayor
Ward 1
Ward 3
Ward 5

2018-2022

TERM

Ward 2
Ward 4
Ward 6

Mayor and Council Contact Information



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THE CITY OF DOUGLAS STAFF STRIVES DAILY TO:

Provide efficient, effective, and responsive service. The citizens of Douglas depend on and expect water to be healthy and available, trash to be collected and parks/playgrounds to be maintained as part of their daily living. The City of Douglas meets those expectations while doing so through good stewardship and protecting the tax payer's investment.

Promote a quality of life based on cooperation. City of Douglas employees work and live in the community and benefit from a good quality of life as much as any other Douglas citizen. Maintaining our local parks, shopping, dining, and entertainment venues is just the start to a good quality of life. Police and Fire protection ensures that quality of life.

Create leadership and opportunity for Southeast Arizona. Douglas is quickly gaining recognition as a contender in the border communities of Arizona. Through a concentrated effort, the appropriate agencies from local to State to Federal are looking at Douglas as "the" place to focus their attention and assistance. As we gain with this exposure, we will be able to expand current and new business opportunities.

City Staff Contact Information

City Manager, Jim Russell.....	520.417.7303
City Attorney, Juan Pablo Flores.....	520.417.7304
City Clerk, Brenda Aguilar	520.417.7302
Economic/Community Development, David Carranza.....	520.417.7307
Finance Director/City Treasurer, Luis Pedroza.....	520.417.7319
Fire Chief, Mario Novoa.....	520.417.7371
Housing Manager, Xenia Gonzalez.....	520.417.7388
Human Resources Manager, Rocio Garcia-Pedroza.....	520.417.7324
Information Technology Manager, Joel Camacho.....	520.417.7706
Library Manager, Margaret White.....	520.417.7355
Leisure Services Manager, Jennifer Smith.....	520.417.7345
Police Chief, Kraig Fullen.....	520.417.7365
Public Works Director, Lynn Kartchner.....	520.417.7330
Transit Manager, Humberto Rivera.....	520.417.7400

Other Helpful Numbers...

Animal Welfare.....	520.417.7567
City Clerk Main Line.....	520.417.7302
Crime Check (anonymous number).....	520.417.7520
Human Resources Main Line.....	520.417.7326
Library Main Line.....	520.417.7352
Non-Emergency Police Line.....	520.417.7550

Public Safety - POLICE



The Douglas Police Department is a full service police department in whose officers are committed in creating a safe environment where citizens can live and work in this community without the fear of crime. We take great pride in the professional service we provide and the positive interaction we have with the residents of this community.

Our success is dependent upon the men and women who arrive at work every day and stand ready to face whatever challenges the day might bring; the men and women who work in our Support Services Division who diligently serve both internal and external stakeholders; and those who serve in our Humane Division striving to improve the quality of life for our pet population. Lastly, success is dependent upon the collaboration between all of the City Departments, public and private entities and you our community; that we proudly serve.

During the current fiscal year, the Department has obtained nearly \$650,000 in grant funding to supplement department needs and programs:

10/2017	Arizona Auto Theft Authority – Equipment	\$ 1,188
10/2017	Governor’s Office of Highway Safety – Overtime/Equip	\$ 22,890
10/2017	Governor’s Office of Highway Safety – Overtime/Equip	\$ 13,746
2/2018	AZDOHS Stonegarden – Overtime	\$610,000
Total:		\$647,824

The FY2017/2018 Part I Crime statistics reflect a 24.8% decrease compared to last fiscal year (based on a 10 month comparison of data July through April since we do not have a complete data set for the current fiscal year). We experienced a 7.7% increase in violent crimes with 14 incidents reported this year and 13 last year. Property crimes are down 25.8% over last year.

On July 10, 2017 Officer Michael Beck was recognized by Congresswoman Martha McSally for his lifesaving efforts through the administering of CPR to an unresponsive patient. Officer Beck was one of a number of officers throughout the state who were recognized by the Congresswoman as part of her annual First Responder of Distinction Award.

On May 2, 2018 Officer Joseph Zajicek was recognized by the Cochise County Sheriff’s Office as part of the first annual Top Cop Luncheon. Officer Zajicek had been nominated as the Patrol Division’s Employee of the Year for the Department and was again nominated by the awards committee to be considered for the Top Cop and was one of several runner-ups who were recognized during the event.

Public Safety - POLICE

Proud To Be Part Of The Community...

- Members of the Douglas Police Department participated in the annual Relay for Life event held at Copper King Stadium.
- The Department hosted the 3rd Annual Waffle Sale at the Visitor Center, raising \$1577 which was donated to the Douglas Run/Walk for the Cure.
- Staff from the Douglas Police Department hosted the second annual Shop with a Cop event at the Douglas Walmart benefiting a total of 14 kids who were treated to breakfast and then spent a few hours shopping for gifts with the Department staff. A sincere note of gratitude is owed to Officer Jamilette Barrios who spearheaded the event as well as to Burger King for donating breakfast and Walmart for contributing a \$1000 donation.
- Provided security for Governor Doug Ducey's visit to Douglas.
- Hosted an Opioid Civic Academy with the Just Change and Southern Arizona Interfaith groups. There were approximately 60 people in attendance and a number of residents shared their personal loss of a loved one or being in the midst of this crisis with a family member.



Public Safety - FIRE

The City of Douglas Fire Department continues to strive to make our City safe for all our residents and visitors.



For over one hundred and fifteen years our predecessors and our current staff have strived to keep our integrity and professionalism in our local City Service. Many positive changes have occurred in the last seven years and our Department has always risen to the level needed to provide the best pre-hospital EMS and Fire suppression services.

In addition to caring for our own, the DFD is responsible for our Arizona Department of Health Services Certificate of Necessity, which means we are responsible for responding to calls in a 1,500 square mile radius. As a result, we have responded to approximately 3,500 calls outside the city limits in 2017.

We increased staffing this year to accommodate an increase in inter-facility transports to enhance our medical care for our community. This involves transporting critical patients from our local Emergency Room to a higher level of medical care, often transporting patients to Sierra Vista and Tucson. Our EMT's and Paramedics have been trained to handle certain medications and treatments needed to help stabilize these patients and care for them until they are delivered to the qualified hospital.

Another service our DFD takes on is to assist Neighboring departments in our County and Northern Sonora for EMS, Fire and HazMat incidents. We have assisted our Cochise County Neighbors with wild land fires, multi patient emergency incidents as well as structure fires. We have also assisted our Northern Sonora neighbors with our approved bi-national emergency response plan, the U.S. EPA Border 2020 program. We assisted A.P. Sonora Fire Department on two tire fires and were able to assist in the extinguishment within a few hours vs. a few days which was the normal expectation in the past. This new rapid approach limits dangerous smoke and gases from impacting our community and County. We are working closely with our Mexican partners to train and educate both sides of our emergency response staff on how to handle certain emergency situations to mitigate any negative impact to the surrounding area and neighboring Country.

All of this means that the Fire Department has to continually change to meet the needs of the community. In the coming months, We are initiating a new program that will enhance operations for our Department. This program will include adding more existing staff to current divisions within our department and allow staff to learn new skills to include; Organization, Scheduling, Budgeting, Inventory control, Ordering, Stocking, Mentoring, Maintenance, Trouble shooting, and repair. These skills will enhance our staffs' already Firefighting and Medical Care Training.

Public Safety - FIRE



Pledge of Sister City Support ~ Douglas /Agua Prieta



Wildland Fire Support

In order to keep up with the demand of qualified firefighters, EMTs, and Medics, we are growing and building our own future firefighter and EMS providers, an effort that is crucial with our own young residents, where the compassion and love of community are already in place. We are encouraging staff to enhance themselves and our community by supporting and providing the following training through Cochise College, AZ State Fire Association, University of Arizona South, U.S. National Fire Academy, FEMA, AZDEM and others.

- * *Advancing education to current EMT's who are aspiring to become National Certified Paramedics*
- * *Fire Company office training*
- * *CPR and First Aid Instructors*
- * *AZ State Certified Firefighter 1-2 Instructors*
- * *HAZ MAT Techs*
- * *Technical Rescue Training*
- * *Fire Investigator Training*
- * *Fire Inspector*
- * *EMS Bike Patrol*

As a vital member of the community, we continue to be involved in our community events to include parades, functions, and other positive oriented events that enhance our community and bring a positive light and vibe to our area. Some of the events that DFD has participated in this past year include but are not limited to;

- * *American Cancer Society Relay for life*
- * *4th. of July Fireworks display show*
- * *Douglas toy, food and coat drive*
- * *Douglas Days*
- * *EMS Standby for many events throughout our community*
- * *Douglas Fire and Douglas Police spearheaded collections areas for the victims of Hurricane Harvey*

Douglas Public Library

We think most people would agree that the Douglas Public Library (DPL) is one of the busiest spots in town! Open to the public six days a week with a collection numbering 50,000+ items to lend and a program production schedule of 250 events per year, it's no wonder that DPL is a popular place!



Over 106,000 patrons visited the Douglas Public Library last year. They borrowed 38,039 items – books, movies, magazines, musical CDs and more – and signed up to use public computers 15,517 times. Some 3,613 residents attended DPL-produced programs for children, teens and adults, including 200+ who read books, attended special events, and won prizes for their participation in the Summer Reading Program.



From the free weekly Pre-School Story Times, Teen Movie Nights, and Adult Book Discussion groups, to new services such as mobile printing, Wi-Fi Hotspot lending, DPL's new Placita Park presence, and digital book and magazine downloads, there's something for everyone at the Douglas Public Library. But, don't take our word for it – ask the 2,613 people who signed up for a new library card last year. Or, better yet, come and see for yourself!

Our friendly staff is waiting to welcome you.



Cochise Connections

Douglas connected with Interstate 10 on August 7, 2018 by way of the Cochise Connections bus route. This route begins and ends in Douglas and makes stops to Bisbee, Sierra Vista, and as of January 2018, Huachuca City and Benson. This is a true asset to the growth of Douglas as the connectivity provides a consistent mode of transportation for residents of Cochise County...and Douglas is once again leading the way!

We would like to thank our partners for making this happen: ADOT, SEAGO, the Legacy Foundation, Freeport McMoRan, and Cochise County. Together we are making a difference!



**Bisbee Launch Celebration
August 7, 2017**



**Ribbon Cutting/Service Launch
August 7, 2017**



Cochise Connection's First Passengers 8.07.17 @ 6:45 AM



Parks & Leisure Services

Aquatic Center

The Douglas Aquatic Center is one of our City's hidden jewels. Open 11 months out of the year, it is fully equipped with lifeguards and everything you need to have a great swim...and this year they had a face-lift to enhance your aquatic experience. The facility looks fresh, clean, and inviting!



Cemetery

This year, the Cemetery Division implemented a volunteer program which allows staff to work with organizations to help upkeep the cemetery. Specifically, the program works to help maintain the plaques for those who made the ultimate sacrifice, our Veterans. The DHS Key Club volunteered twice this year to upkeep the Veteran's section. They plan to help the Cemetery several time this year!



Parks & Leisure Services

Recreation and Leisure Services

The Parks and Recreation Services Division provided activities, programs and events for the Douglas community and surrounding areas. The events provided recreational opportunities that enhance the quality of life for the entire Douglas community. Here are just a few!

One of the most exciting additions to Douglas this year was the awarding and completion of the Erubiel Durazo Baseball field, received through a grant from the Arizona Diamondback Foundation and APS. This field is designed and will be used as a multi-level field from Little League to Adult. The bases and pitching mound are all moveable and will have a mobile outfield fence for Little League play. Our City staff played a major part in preparing the area to control cost and get the most out of the grant. The Parks crew provided irrigation lines and the Public Works crew provided level and grade work, installation of ADA paths to the field, and will be building a concession stand.



Human Resources

The City of Douglas was presented with a Partnership Award from the Industrial Commission of Arizona and the Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health (ADOSH) for the City's participation in their Public Entities Partnership Program. Three members from the Safety Committee received the award on behalf of the City of Douglas. The Awards Ceremony took place in Phoenix.

This program is a 3 year commitment, where ADOSH personnel conduct quarterly visits during this timeframe to assess the City's safety and health management systems.



Housing

The City of Douglas is proud to be the housing agent for the Housing and Urban Development federal aid program for our community.

Public housing was established to provide decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Public housing comes in all sizes and types, from scattered single family houses to apartments for elderly families. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administers Federal aid to local housing agencies (HAs) that manage the housing for low-income residents at rents they can afford.

And we're making a difference in our community by providing assistance to those that need it. The Section 8 waiting list opened on February 1, 2018 and closed April 30, 2018 with a total of 75 applications received. We are currently assisting 175 families with Section 8 assistance and looking to increase that number to 190 families within the next several months.

In addition to public housing assistance, the City of Douglas Housing Department applies for and administers Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) which provides opportunities for us to invest into our community for the benefit of everyone. This grant was awarded in 5 phases. Each phase is awarded a fluctuating amount, but typically has been an average of \$160,000 each year.

The first and second phases were for street improvements, which involved not only resurfacing streets, but adding sidewalks and curbing as well, all being ADA accessible. The third phase was designated to assist the elderly, disabled, and low income home owners with much needed repairs to their homes. Four properties were identified for rehabilitation, bringing the home up to current code requirements and addressing their physical limitations. Two homes were identified that required emergency funding. Phase four will involve the removal and replacement of the playground located on the west side of Veteran's Park.

After completing the required environmental review, the replacement will be under way. The final phase (phase five) is yet to be determined. The Annual Action Plan has been drafted and submitted to HUD and we are awaiting the award amount. Once that is received, we will hold a public hearing and then a project will be presented to Mayor and Council for approval to proceed. This project's focus will be on the youth and elderly needs of the community.



Community Investment

Keeping your water safe and flowing...

The proposed project consists of new wastewater collection infrastructure for the unserved residential area of Bay Acres subdivision, including installation of yard-line connections from the home to the Wastewater Collection System (WWCS) and decommissioning of existing on-site wastewater disposal systems, as well as upgrades to and expansion of the treatment capacity of the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in the city of Douglas, Arizona.

The Project is expected to generate environmental and human health benefits:

- Provide access to wastewater collection services for 342 existing homes, including the installation of household wastewater connections to 100% of the existing homes in the Project area.
- Eliminate untreated or inadequately treated wastewater discharges of approximately 0.096 million gallons per day (mgd).
- Improve wastewater treatment service for 100% of the system's wastewater connections.
- Project Cost: \$19,775,811 (Bay Acres Sewer WWCS—\$6,800,114 and WWTP Upgrade—\$12,975,697)



Street Project 3-Year List

Street Improvement Priority List

Phase 1: July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

- 10th Street from Pan American to A Ave (Completed)
- 12th Street from G Ave to A Ave (Completed)
- 13th Street from A Ave to Estrella (Completed)
- Washington Ave from 19th Street to Huber (On hold for Sewer Project)
- 5th Street from Chino Road to A Ave (On hold for Utility Project)
- 6th Street from Pan American to A Ave (Completed)
- 7th Street from Pan American to A Ave (Completed)
- 8th Street from Pan American to A Ave (Completed)

Phase 2 : July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

- Polk Ave from 10th St to 15th St
- 22nd Street from Pan American to A Ave
- 6th Street from A Ave to Washington Ave
- 21st Street from Pan American to A Ave
- 20th Street from Pan American to A Ave
- 19th Street from Pan American to A Ave
- 18th Street from Pan American to A Ave
- 17th Street from Pan American to A Ave
- 16th Street from Pan American to A Ave
- A Ave from 23rd Street to International Ave
- B Ave from 22nd Street to 4th Street

Phase 3: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

- C Ave from 22nd Street to 4th Street
- D Ave from 21st Street to 4th Street
- H Ave from 11th Street to 1st Street
- I Ave from 7th Street to 3rd Street
- 5th Street from A Ave to Washington Ave
- 7th Street from A Ave to Veteran Park
- 7th Street from Veteran Park to Washington Ave
- 8th Street from A Ave to Carmalita
- Douglas Ave from 7th Street to 9th Street
- Chiricahua Ave from 7th Street to 9th Street
- 9th Street from Pan American to A Ave
- F Ave from International to 16th Street
- E Ave from 5th Street to 19th Street
- Washington Ave from Golf Course to 0.2
- La Cima Ave from 15th Street to 0.2
- Leslie Canyon Road at the stream crossing
- Washington Ave from 24th Street to 19th Street
- Estrella Ave from 15th Street to 19th Street

Raul H Castro Port of Entry



DID YOU KNOW...

The Raul H Castro Port of Entry was built in 1933 and had it's first renovation in 1996. Other than the designation as a National Historic Site in 2014, nothing has been done to improve the port since that renovation.

Modernization and expansion efforts have continued during the last year concerning the Raul H. Castro Port of Entry which continues to be outdated and overburdened. The long term solution requires the modernization of existing facilities and the relocation of commercial traffic to a new facility to be built to the west of the existing port, thereby eliminating the crossing of hazardous materials through the heart of downtown Douglas.

This strategy leaves all non-commercial operations in the downtown area, making it easier and faster for private passage through the port and allow Douglas to expand retail and commercial development.

Considering that Personal Vehicles passing through our port has increased from 2016 to 2017 by 8.3% **we are on a path to break 1.7 Million cars by the end of the year!**

Successful Efforts To Date:

We have confirmation that the modernization of the Raul H Castro Port of Entry is included in the Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) 5-Year Capital Improvements Projects Plan for \$42 million in 2020, an amount expected to increase as the Feasibility Study provides more cost estimates.

The initiation of a General Services Administration (GSA) Feasibility Study to look at the modernization of the port of entry and evaluate the option of relocating commercial traffic to a new facility to the west of the City of Douglas. This is a critical and formal step in the federal funding process.

SIDUR is in the process of transferring up to 60 acres of land immediately adjacent to the border plus the easement from the border to Mexican Highway 2 (approximately 2.5 miles) to build the necessary inspection infrastructure and connector roads on the Mexican side of the proposed new port of entry.

Douglas has successfully presented a Donation Acceptance Proposal (DAP) to Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and GSA for the donation of the parking lot and adjacent land to help alleviate congestion at the Port of Entry and help with the staging of commercial operations that participate in the Unified Cargo Processing program.

Raul H Castro Port of Entry

Proposal for a land donation by City of Douglas has been accepted and executed

Benefits of Donation:

- ⇒ Relieves congestion inside commercial compound
- ⇒ CBP/GSA will pay for all improvements and patrolling
- ⇒ Provides dedicated space for official and personal vehicles
- ⇒ Additional space used for staging of southbound trucks that participate in the UCP program

Supports deployment of UCP at Douglas!!



There's still work to do...

- ◆ **CBP/GSA continuation of feasibility study** to look at the needs of the existing port of entry, determine the best course of action, and the **relocation of commercial operations** to a new location west of the City of Douglas
- ◆ Look at broader economic development strategies that **promote the retail and service sector**, making Douglas and the entire southern portion of Cochise County a **destination** for U.S. and Mexican visitors and businesses
- ◆ Promote **industrial developments** and **warehousing/distribution** centers, in support of the manufacturing taking place in AP, on the Douglas side
- ◆ Target fresh produce industry that has turned to Columbus as their point of entry into the U.S. and encourage consideration of the Raul H Castro port of entry as a **gateway of choice**



Proposed drawing of the UCP Commercial Port of Entry to be located on available land west of the City of Douglas.

Economic Development

Economic development isn't just about bringing in new businesses into the community, but also providing support for existing businesses for continued growth and sustainability. Neither endeavor is without merit and certainly requires a great deal of time and effort.

The City of Douglas is positioned for economic and community success. The community's rich history and culture, economic drivers, community assets, and strategic border location make Douglas a good location for business investment. Douglas is a community ready for business investment, a tourism attraction, and a place to build a strong family lifestyle.

Infrastructure improvements include:

- Phase 1 of streets completed at a cost of \$420,000. Phase 2 began last week at a cost of another \$420,000. Phase 3 will be completed next fiscal year at a cost of \$460,000.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion will add approximately 50% more capacity to our treatment capabilities which will allow us to begin a sewer line project and bring Bay Acres into the system and off septic tanks by the end of the next fiscal year.
- The Sanitation improvement project will be 100% in effect by the end of the first quarter of this fiscal year. The total investment in this project will be over \$1.2 Million and save personnel costs and produce a more effective and efficient trash collection program.
- Cox Communication has recently brought HD to Douglas as well as expanding the broadband capability. Additionally, by providing fiber optic accessibility and a high-speed broadband, businesses are able to have the connectivity required to do business in this age of technology.
- SW Gas has been working diligently to upgrade their gas lines to provide a more safe and quality product to our homes and businesses.
- APS has invested millions to ensure that they have the redundancy and reliability required to live and work in Douglas. With their vision of non-existent power outages and limited interruptions, they have made a significant investment that will pay off in our ability to be a desirable place to do business.

Successful economic development and sustained prosperity requires collaboration and strong public/private partnerships. This effort requires a team approach to communicate and work toward a common vision. In addition to the infrastructure and economic development efforts incorporated by the City of Douglas, the establishments listed below are a sample of those that have made significant investments into their business that show their faith in Douglas and that we are all open for business.

• Gadsen Hotel	\$180,000
• BALAR (formerly Club 3000)	\$250,000
• Denny's	\$350,000
• Verizon (old Radio Shack Store)	\$180,000
• QuickCare (old Taco Bell Store)	\$100,000
• Ari Mex	\$150,000

Economic Development

Economic Development Goals to strive for...

1. To continue efforts to improve the existing Raul H. Castro Port of Entry operations and develop a new commercial Port of Entry west of Douglas/Agua Prieta.
2. Attract value added manufacturing, processing operations and expand retail resulting in more quality jobs and overall regional economy prosperity by:
 - A. Developing and implementing a comprehensive manufacturing strategy
 - B. Developing a bi-national cattle and agriculture coalition to maximize industry growth opportunities
 - C. Creating a globally competitive workforce
 - D. Strengthening Douglas' retail sector to attract more shoppers and increase the sales tax revenues
3. Marketing to effectively communicate the Douglas story that differentiates the region from all others
4. Meet with area businesses regularly to acquire necessary feedback to effectively retain and advise on business development and expansion.
5. Restoration of the "G" Avenue historic downtown structures.
6. Improve the quality of life for Douglas residents.
 - A. Work closely with health care professionals to ensure that Douglas continues to expand medical services available to residents
 - A. Develop a recreation strategic plan to expand the community's recreational amenities
7. Market the Greater Douglas region as a tourism destination, capitalizing on the Raul H. Castro Port of Entry

Accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2017/2018

Port of Entry:

- Made numerous presentations advocating Raul Castro POE expansion and modernization. Notable presentations include Arizona/Mexico Commission Summits in Scottsdale and Hermosillo (including participating in private sessions with Governors of Arizona and Sonora during which the Director of ADOT presented on the City of Douglas projects), Binational Bridges and Borders Conference, Arizona Border Congressional Briefing in Washington D.C. with all 11 congressional offices (2 Senate and 9 House) with detailed presentations on two port strategy, and at the invitation of the Secretary of SIDUR, participated in Inter-Secretarial meeting with all Mexican federal agencies with purview over the border in Mexico City, Mexico.
- Gained support from Office of the Governor, Congresswoman Martha McSally and Senator Jeff Flake, Arizona Department of Transportation, Arizona/Mexico Commission, Douglas International Port Authority, Douglas Regional Economic Development Corporation, Douglas Industrial Development Authority, Douglas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Transportation and Trade Corridor Alliance, as well as numerous county and state agencies.
- Held Top level meetings with CBP and GSA in Washington, D.C.
- Supported the implementation of Unified Cargo Inspection process.
- Submitted Donation Acceptance Program Proposal for the Parking Lot and the adjacent property in order to provide a more secure environment and to help expedite southbound shipments that are participating in the Unified Cargo Processing program. Donation has been accepted and is in the process of being finalized for property transfer.
- Confirmed with SIDUR that Sonora is working on the transfer of title and deed for the land on the Mexican side at James Ranch Road that would house the new border crossing.
- ADOT and SIDUR have identified that the projects at Douglas are priority for both states
- Confirmation from Mexican government that Mexico will NOT support a major expansion of commercial operations in the downtown area - they want all cargo to be outside of population centers.
- Multiple Stakeholder meetings in Douglas, providing an opportunity for over 40 local and regional leaders to hear of activities and provide an opportunity to provide input.
- Have confirmed that the Feasibility Study will consider investment at the existing port and will also look at the relocation of commercial traffic to a new facility - this is in great part due to our advocacy efforts.
- CBP has confirmed that the Raul H. Castro port of entry is in line for a major modernization in the CBP 5-Year Capital Improvements Project (CIP) Plan in 2020 for \$42 million
- Working with ADOT on the deployment of programs to help expedite truck safety inspections in order to create a better border crossing experience for trade.

Infrastructure

- Over \$20 million for infrastructure improvements
 - Streets Project – 3 year plan to improve 35 City streets, both thoroughfares and residential.
 - Wastewater Plan Improvement – Project to double the capacity of treatment to allow for expansion of City needs
 - Sewer line installation – Project to install new sewer lines to the Bay Acres addition for future expansion and to remove those residents from septic tanks
- Solid Waste Collection change
- Expansion of Broadband capabilities by Cox Communications
- Upgrade of Natural Gas lines by Southwest Gas
- Upgrades and implementation of redundancy capabilities for electricity by APS

Accomplishments for Fiscal Year 2017/2018

Economic Development:

- Designation of G Ave as Arts and Cultural District. The Arts and Culture district along “G” Avenue from 8th Street to the intersection where “G” Avenue meets Pan American. That intersection has a “Welcome To Douglas” monument that also helps to designate that entrance as special and unique to the downtown area. This is to create an area that would promote a close knit community with certain entertainment/concerts/events. By bringing those events to the street, it would assist the local business owners by bring foot traffic to their doors.
- Invested with Douglas Association of Realtors for several commercial façade improvements in the City's commercial districts in an effort to enhance the image of Douglas and thus to further enhance relocation and attraction opportunities in the City of Douglas.
- Held monthly workshops for local business owners on ideas to improve business. These workshops included, but was not limited to, topics such as Social Media Presence, Customer Service, and Improving the Bottom Line.
- Developed and implemented “Incentive Package” for attracting new business and construction growth.
- Posted advertisement for Douglas by: increased partnership/participation with the Cochise County Tourism Council resulting in state and national advertising opportunities and better efficiency of marketing dollars, and by placing a billboard on I-10 promoting visitation to those traveling or staying in the Benson area to visit Douglas.
- Partnered with Partners for Strategic Action Inc. to create a Border Business Case Committee to create a strategic plan for the City of Douglas. This plan is a guide for the City of Douglas to use to pursue and capture the interest of investors, developers and many newcomers to our City. This plan will also be made available on your new website enabling site selectors and speculators to the plans we have for the City of Douglas.
- Designated a Business District to allow for incentives and opportunities for grant funding to create a strong business base.
- Start up of CSL Plasma Center

Other Accomplishments:

- The City of Douglas has partnered with The Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation, along with APS and built a new baseball field. This field is multi-faceted, allowing every age group, from Little League to Adults a new field on which to play.
- Teamed up with the Mexican Baseball Fiesta, LLC (MBF) to bring a Mexican Professional League game to Douglas, with an attendance of over 2,000 fans.
- Implementation of the Cochise Connections bus route, allowing passage between Douglas, Bisbee, Sierra Vista and Benson.
- Sister City agreement for assistance through Border 20/20. An agreement was approved to continue to provide emergency assistance for both Agua Prieta and the City of Douglas. This agreement was signed by the Mayors of Douglas and Agua Prieta during the Border 20/20 conference on November 29th.
- Jaguar Project (New York Times)
- PBS interview with Lorraine Rivera—Small Town Thinking Big
- Submittal proposal to Amazon for a Distribution Center
- Outdoor library at La Placita Del Sol
- Letter to President Trump
- Visit by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey
- Establishment of Youth City Council
- Two Clean up events, one sponsored by the City for Alley clean-up and one by a High School Senior for city-wide
- New Douglas Website

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO IN DOUGLAS?

February

Jazz Festival ~ Shared Spaces

March

D-hill 5K Run

April

Dia de los Ninos ~ National Library Week activities

May

Binational Border Concert ~ Douglas Days and Parade

June

Get Out & Play ~ Summer Camp ~ Movies in the Park ~ Library Summer Reading Program

July

Movies in the Park ~ 4th of July Parade and Fireworks ~ Summer Camp ~ Library Summer Reading Program

August

Car Fair ~ Get Out & Play

September

Douglas Fiestas & Parade ~ Cochise County Fair ~ Friends of the Library Book Sale ~ The Loft Cinema

October

Pancake Fly-in ~ Cochise Cycling Tour ~ Bi-National Art Walk ~ Trunk or Treat ~ Loft Cinema ~ Get Out & Play ~ Relay for Life ~ Business Expo

November

Christmas Tree Lighting ~ Christmas Parade

December

Toys 4 Tots ~ Douglas on Ice

Check our website (www.douglasaz.org) for exact dates, time, and locations
Or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CityofDouglasAZ